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October 25, 2007

# ATTORNEY GENERAL COPY: CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION PER EVIDENCE CODE § 1040

# NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.

Dear Public Enforcement Agencies:

Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP ("Firm") represents As You Sow ("AYS"), a non-profit foundation organized under California's Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation Law. AYS is dedicated to, among other causes, the protection of the environment, the promotion of human health, the improvement of worker and consumer safety, and environmental education.

This firm and AYS have documented violations of California's Safe Drinking Water & Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), codified at Health & Safety Code §25249.5 et seq. This letter serves to provide this Firm's and AYS' notification of these violations to the public enforcement agencies and to the violator. Pursuant to §25249.7(d) of the statute, this Firm intends to bring an enforcement action on behalf of AYS sixty (60) days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

A summary of the statute and its implementing regulations, which was prepared by the lead agency designated under the statute, is enclosed with the copy of this notice served upon the violator. The specific details of the violations that are the subject of this notice are provided below.

Alleged violators. The name of the violators covered by this notice are: KB Toys Retail, Inc.; Kids II, Inc.; and Eveready Battery Company, Inc.

Attorney General's Notice of Violation of Proposition 65 October 25, 2007 Page 2

Chemicals. These violations involve exposures to lead and lead compounds from the products listed below. On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

Consumer products. The products that are the subject of this notice are children's toys that are imported, exported, manufactured, packaged, distributed, marketed, and/or sold by the violators listed above, as follows:

	Product Name	Violator(s)
•	Wooden Pull-Along Alphabet & Math Blocks Wagons and Wooden Pull-Along Learning Blocks Wagons (UPC #834162002158 or #834162002165) 10-in-1 Activity Learning Carts (UPC #834162002127) Flip-Flop Alphabet Blocks (UPC #834162001212)	KB Toys Retail, Inc.
•	Baby Einstein Discover & Play Color Blocks (Models 30726 and 30881, with date code GE7, GF7, and GG7)	Kids II, Inc.
•	"Pirates of the Caribbean" Medallion Squeeze Lights	Eveready Battery Company, Inc.

Route of exposure. Use of the product identified in this notice results in human exposures to lead. The routes of exposure include direct ingestion when consumers, including children, place the product in their mouths; through ingestion via hand to mouth contact after consumers, including children, touch or handle the product; and dermal absorption directly through the skin when consumers, including children, touch or handle the product. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with this product regarding the carcinogenic or reproductive hazards of lead.

**Duration of violations.** The violations relating to the "Pirates of the Caribbean" Medallion Squeeze Lights and the wooden toys sold by KB Toys Retail, Inc. all have occurred on every day since at least October 25, 2006, until the products were recalled. The violation relating to the Einstein Color Blocks occurred on each day since June 2007, until the product was recalled.

Pursuant to Title 11, C.C.R. § 3100, a certificate of merit is attached hereto.

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In keeping with its public interest mission and to expeditiously rectify these ongoing violations of California law, AYS is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter without engaging in costly and protracted litigation. Please direct all communications regarding this notice to AYS' counsel in this matter:

Ellison Folk Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP 396 Hayes Street San Francisco, CA 94102 PH: 415.552.7272; Fax: 415.552.5816

Email: efolk@smwlaw.com

Very truly yours,

SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER LLP

Ellison Folk

Enclosures: Certificate of Merit

Proof of Service

## CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

(Notice of Proposition 65 Violation on: KB Toys Retail, Inc.; Kids II, Inc.; and Eveready Battery Company, Inc.)

## I, Ellison Folk, declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the party in the notice has violated section 25249.6 of the Health and Safety Code by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am the attorney for the noticing party.
- 3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding exposure to lead, the listed chemical that is the subject of the action.
- 4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff's case can be established and that the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.
- 5. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in section 25249.7(h)(2) of the Health and Safety Code, i.e., (1) the identify of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated:	Oct, 25, 2007	gre	
		Ellison Folk	

Enclosure (For Attorney General Copy only)

[P:\AYS\CPSC Recalled Toys\dao019 (COM Recalled Kids Toys).wpd]

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 396 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

On October 25, 2007, I served the following documents:

- Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.
- Certificate of Merit
- "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary"

on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below, and depositing it at a United States Postal Service Office for delivery by Certified Mail:

Gregory R. Staley, CEO KB Toys Retail, Inc. 100 West Street Pittsfield, MA 01201

Joseph W. McClanathan, CEO Eveready Battery Company, Inc. 533 Maryville University Dr. St. Louis, MO 63141

Ryan T. Gunnigle, CEO Kids II, Inc. 555 N Point Center E Ste 600 Alpharetta, GA 30022

On October 25, 2007, I served the following document(s):

- Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.
- Certificate of Merit, including Supporting Documentation Required by Title 11, C.C.R. § 3102

on the following party by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below, and depositing it at a United States Postal Service Office for delivery by Certified Mail:

Attn: Ed Weil, Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On October 25, 2007, I served the following document(s):

- Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.
- Certificate of Merit

on each of the parties on the service list attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties on the service list attached hereto, and depositing it at United States Postal Service mail box for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on October 25, 2007, at San Francisco, California.

Patricia Spencer

[P:\AYS\CPSC Recalled Toys\dao014 (POS for Prop 65 notice toy recall).wpd]

#### PUBLIC ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SERVICE LIST

THE HONORABLE THOMAS J ORLOFF ALAMEDA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 1225 FALLON ST RM 900 OAKLAND CA 94612

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM RICHMOND ALPINE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY PO BOX 248 MARKLEEVILLE CA 96120

THE HONORABLE TODD D RIEBE AMADOR COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 708 COURT ST STE 202 JACKSON CA 95642

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL RAMSEY BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 25 COUNTY CTR DR OROVILLE CA 95965

THE HONORABLE JEFFREY TUTTLE CALAVERAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 891 MTN RANCH RD SAN ANDREAS CA 95249

THE HONORABLE JOHN POYNER COLUSA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 547 MARKET ST STE 102 COLUSA CA 95932

THE HONORABLE ROBERT KOCHLY CONTRA COSTA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY PO BOX 670 MARTINEZ CA 94553

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL RIESE DEL NORTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 450 H ST STE 171 CRESCENT CITY CA 95531

THE HONORABLE VERNON PIERSON EL DORADO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 515 MAIN ST PLACERVILLE CA 95667

THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH EGAN FRESNO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 2220 TULARE ST STE 1000 FRESNO CA 93721

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THE HONORABLE ARTHUR MAILLET INYO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY PO DRAWER D INDEPENDENCE CA 93526

THE HONORABLE EDWARD R JAGELS KERN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 1215 TRUXTUN AVE BAKERSFIELD CA 93301

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THE HONORABLE JON HOPKINS LAKE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 255 N FORBES ST LAKEPORT CA 95453

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THE HONORABLE STEVE COOLEY LACOUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 210 W TEMPLE ST STE 18000 LOS ANGELES CA 90012-3210

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THE HONORABLE LARRY MORSE II
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THE HONORABLE GARY LIEBERSTEIN NAPA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 931 PARKWAY MALL NAPA CA 94559

THE HONORABLE CLIFFORD NEWELL NEVADA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 201 CHURCH ST STE 8 NEVADA CITY CA 95959

THE HONORABLE TONY RACKAUCKAS ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 401 CIVIC CTR DR WEST SANTA ANA CA 92701

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THE HONORABLE MICHAEL RAMOS SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 316 N MTN VIEW AVE SAN BERNARDINO CA 92415-0004

#### PUBLIC ENFORCEMENT AGENCY SERVICE LIST

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